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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/085,476	02/27/2002	Raffaele De Francesco	IT0002PCA	5843

210 7590 07/24/2006

MERCK AND CO., INC
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RAHWAY, NJ 07065-0907

EXAMINER

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 07/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Communication Re: Appeal

Application No.

10/085,476

Examiner

Richard G. Hutson

Applicant(s)

DE FRANCESCO ET AL.

Art Unit

1652

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☐ The Notice of Appeal filed on _____ is not acceptable because:

- (a) ☐ it was not timely filed.
- (b) ☐ the statutory fee for filing the appeal was not submitted. See 37 CFR 41.20(b)(1).
- (c) ☐ the appeal fee received on _____ was not timely filed.
- (d) ☐ the submitted fee of \$_____ is insufficient. The appeal fee required by 37 CFR 41.20(b)(1) is \$_____.
- (e) ☐ the appeal is not in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31(a)(1) in that no claim has been twice rejected.
- (f) ☐ a Notice of Allowability, PTO-37, was mailed by the Office on _____.

2. ☒ The appeal brief filed on 11 May 2006 is NOT acceptable for the reason(s) indicated below:

- (a) ☒ the brief and/or brief fee is untimely. See 37 CFR 41.37(a).
- (b) ☐ the statutory fee for filing the brief has not been submitted. See 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2).
- (c) ☐ the submitted brief fee of \$_____ is insufficient. The brief fee required by 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2) is \$_____.

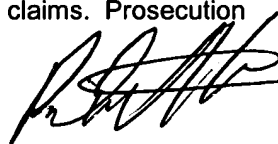
The appeal in this application will be dismissed unless corrective action is taken to timely submit the brief and requisite fee. See 37 CFR 41.37(a)(1). Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). See 37 CFR 41.37(e).

3. ☒ The appeal in this application is DISMISSED because:

- (a) ☐ the statutory fee for filing the brief as required under 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2) was not timely submitted and the period for obtaining an extension of time to file the brief under 37 CFR 1.136(a) has expired.
- (b) ☐ the brief was not timely filed and the period for obtaining an extension of time to file the brief under 37 CFR 1.136(a) has expired.
- (c) ☐ a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 was filed on _____.
- (d) ☒ other: See Continuation Sheet.

4. ☐ Because of the dismissal of the appeal, this application:

- (a) ☐ is abandoned because there are no allowed claims.
- (b) ☐ is before the examiner for final disposition because it contains allowed claims. Prosecution on the merits remains CLOSED.
- (c) ☐ is before the examiner for consideration.



RICHARD HUTSON, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Continuation of 3. (d) Other: The brief filed on 5/11/2006 continues to be defective because it does not contain the following items under appropriate headings and in the order indicated in paragraphs (c)(1)(i) through (c)(1)(x) of this section. Specifically appellants submitted brief does not contain a related proceedings appendix. It is noted that this was previously pointed out to applicants representative, however, upon the refiling of the instant brief, while applicants state that such a related proceedings appendix is attached, it does not exist. .